Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 AID-05 /085 W

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R 121223Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3308

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL DOULA

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, EG, NI

SUBJECT: EQUATORIAL GUINEAN REFUGEES TO BE TEMPORARILY RESETTLED

IN NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 1665

ON BRIEF VISIT TO ENUGU THIS WEEK TO ADVISE GOVERNORS IMO AND ANAMBRA STATES OF FEDERAL PLANS TO AID NIGERIANS BACK FROM EQUATORIAL GUINEA (EG), FMG COMMISSIONER FOR YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS OLUTOYE TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO TELL PRESS THAT EQUATORIAL GUINEANS WHO HAD FLED TO NIGERIA WOULD NOT BE SENT BACK IMMEDIATELY INTO "LIONS JAWS" OF NGUEMA REGIME. EG REFUGEES WOULD BE RESETTLED IN NIGERIA FOR THE PRESENT AND LATER REPATRIATED TO THEIR HOMELAND. THIS FMG ACTION DESCRIBED AS BEING TAKEN IN THE INTEREST OF AFRICAN UNITY AND BROTHERHOOD.

2. OLUTOYE ALSO INDICATED THAT AIRLIFT OF FOODSTUFF IS UNDERWAY FOR NIGERIANS STILL ON FERNANDO PO. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. COMMENT. IN ADDITION TO HAVING SOME GENUINE SYMPATHY FOR PLIGHT OF EG REFUGEES, FMG WOULD SEEM TO BE DILIVERING LOW-KEY WRIST SLAP TO GOEG. DESPITE PUBLIC CLAMOUR FOR RETALIATION AGAINST GOEG FOR REPRESSION OF NIGERIAN LABORERS, FMG HAS SO FAR TAKEN NO HARSH ACTION AND IT WOULD APPEAR NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT DESIRES CONTINUE MAINTAIN RELATIVELY CONCILIATORY (AND SOMEWHAT PATRIONIZING) POSTURE TOWARDS ITS UNRULY BUT WEAK NEIGHBOR.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 19761 AGOS01790

Document Number: 1976LAGOS01790
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760054-0333

From: LAGOS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760256/aaaabwtu.tel Line Count: 70 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 LAGOS 1665

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12 MAY 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EQUATORIAL GUINEAN REFUGEES TO BE TEMPORARILY RESETTLED IN NIGERIA

TAGS: PFOR, EK, NI To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006